

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0040] with the following rewritten paragraph:

The control panel 22 includes a mode selector in addition to the shutter release button. The mode selector is operated to select either one of the camera mode and movie mode and delivers in turn the previously mentioned mode signal 22a to the system controller 20. The shutter release button has a first and a second stepwise stroke. More specifically, the shutter release button conditions the camera 10 for preliminary image pickup when depressed in its first stroke S1 or conditions it for actual image pickup when depressed in its second stroke S2. The control panel 22 may additionally include a zoom select switch and direction keys, and may be configured to allow the operator to select conditions displayed on an LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) panel.

Please replace paragraph [0056] with the following rewritten paragraph:

The estimated value 18a representative of the sensitivity error of the image sensor 14b is fed from the signal processor 18 to the system controller 20. The system controller 20 calculates an exposure time and an F-number necessary for image pickup with the dynamic range of 200% in accordance with the estimated value 18a. The exposure time thus calculated is assigned to either one of the main and subregions 140b and 140c in accordance with the direction or polarity of the sensitivity error. The system controller 20 then feeds the driver 26 with control signals 20c for controlling the stop and focal distance of the optics 12 and opening the mechanical shutter 12a. In response, the driver 26 feeds a control signal 26b to the mechanical shutter 12a for causing it to open, as shown in FIG. 5, part (a). Also, as shown in FIG. 5, part (b), OFD pulses,

serving as an electronic shutter pulses, are delivered to the main and subregions 140b and 140c at predetermined intervals up to a time t_1 at which actual pickup with the photosensitive cells 140 begins in response to the second stroke S2 of the release button.